

History behind Lt. Col. Thomas Paxton coming to the Virginia Military Track (Loveland, Ohio)



by Rob Geiger (12-17-19)

We know after the Battle of Fallen Timbers (August 20, 1794 location- up by Toledo, Ohio) Paxton walked back to his home to Kentucky, by Carlisle. He walked the eastside banks of the Little Miami River and when he passed the mouth of the O'Bannon Creek, Paxton knew he

wanted to come back to this area and stake his claim since his land grant was no good in Carlisle due to inadequate surveying.

There are enough publications in print that Paxton brought his sons-in-law back to the Loveland area in the Spring of 1795 to start making his home along with other family homes. Paxton's children during that time- Samuel Paxton born 8/7/1793 in Kentucky and the next child was Thomas Paxton born in Clermont County in 5/4/1799. The war and relocating to Ohio kept Col. Paxton too busy by having another child but we know Captain John Ramsey and Isabella Paxton Ramsey were together May, 1795 because 9 months later John Jr. was born in Kentucky, lol.

Sons-in-Law were Captain John Ramsey, James Smith, Silas Hutchinson, Owen Todd that came with Paxton in 1795.

Paxton's log cabin was located on the farm described in the book (Paxton's: We are One by William Paxton Landmark Printing, Platt City, Missouri, 1903 pg. 344 & 345) of Robert Sanford Paxton in 1903. There is another mentioning of this location in another publication. I am guessing Robert Sanford Paxton's place was in the vicinity of 866 Cedar Drive and the acreage that surrounded it. I need to call Joe and Carol Burkhardt owners of 866 Cedar to see if Robert's name was linked to their property since they researched their land. Most of the acreage is part of the Miami Trails Subdivision.

The Land Grant issued by president John Adams to Thomas Paxton on April 28, 1798, 1,100 acres. The Loveland Historical Society has the original deed donated by Thomas Paxton Price a descendant of Lt. Col. Thomas Paxton just a few years ago. I have copies on my phone and have read it. Most of the reference points are trees and some names of other people's property. It does mention crossing over the O'Bannon Creek, referencing the Little Miami River, and William Lytle's property, Also it gives reference points of other surveying numbers and most of them were in the 3,000 range. White Pillars was in the #2019 survey parcel. I am not adverse how to decipher all those surveying number and where they were located?

Interesting fact my farm (6942 Oakland Rd.) was in the #519 survey tract that was originally given to a Pickens for his service. James Taylor bought the 1,000 acres and his son General James Taylor took over his dad's lands. General James Taylor was the founder of Newport,

Kentucky and sold 178 acres to my 4th great grandfather in 1844. There is another story to this land.

The family Cemetery on White Pillars have been referred as Ramsey Cemetery. First legal mentioning of the cemetery when James L. Ramsey sold the property to George Cox for \$3,000.00 "Excluding the burial ground". The deed and legal description of the cemetery was made during the ownership George Swanson. It wasn't until 1995 when we incorporated the cemetery and we officially changed the name to Ramsey-Paxton Cemetery.

White Pillars- We do know that Lt. Col. Paxton held the deed to White Pillars and in Sept. 13, 1816 - Silas Hutchinson appeared in court as witness for John Ramsey, stating that John Ramsey paid Thomas Paxton for (2) plots of land. Thomas Paxton died before he could issue the deeds. The court granted John Ramsey the property.

- May 1, 1826 - John and Isabella Ramsey sold to John Ramsey, Jr. for \$1,285.00. This is the first definite reference to the 86 ac. 13 pole portion of military survey #2019 that was the White Pillars property.
- Oct. 27, 1873 - William Ramsey, George Ramsey, James Ramsey, Isabella Ramsey Loveland and James Loveland and John Wesley Ramsey give Catharine Ramsey (widow of John Ramsey), uncontested rights to all 86 ac.
- Catharine McKinney Ramsey dies around 1876 (Her heirs are the ones selling the property in the following transactions)
- Dec. 27, 1876 - Thomas P. Ramsey sells 1/6th of 86 acres to J.W. Ramsey for \$800.00. This was probably the portion with the house on it.
- Oct. 22, 1879 - Phebe Ramsey et. al. & Sarah & Austin Simonton sell 1/6th to John.Wesley. Ramsey for \$500.00
- Oct. 22, 1879 - James L. Ramsey and Minerva Ramsey sell 1/6th to J.W. Ramsey for \$500.00
- Oct. 22, 1879 - Isabel P. Loveland and James Loveland sell 1/6th to J.W. Ramsey for \$500.00
- Oct. 22, 1879 - George W. Ramsey and Elizabeth Ramsey sell 1/6th to J.W. Ramsey for \$500.00
- Sept. 9, 1882 - Fred A. Waldo filed a civil suit against John Wesley Ramsey. Apparently, James L. Ramsey and L.P. Breeding (who were trustees of the children of William and Phebe Ramsey), were also involved in bringing the lawsuit. Fred Waldo recovered a judgement against J.W. Ramsey for \$1,752.33 plus cost of the suit. The judge further ordered Sheriff Thomas Brown of Clermont County to appraise, advertise and sell J.W. Ramsey's land and tenement.
- March 20, 1883 - Phebe Ramsey (widow of William Ramsey who died in Missouri), sells what appears to be all 86 acres to John W. Ramsey for \$1.00 plus additional considerations.
- August 11, 1883 - James L. Ramsey buys the property at Sheriff's public auction for \$2,755.00 (86 acres, 13 poles)
- However, it doesn't get recorded into record until Dec. 10, 1888 (the day before it sells to Ella B. Marks below).
- Nov. 1, 1883 - L.P. Breeding (trustee of the children of William Ramsey), sells 3/54th share of White Pillars property to James L. Ramsey for \$215.00. This apparently brings the property to 90 acres 13 poles in the next deed record. However, this doesn't make sense to me because the property was never more than 86ac. 13 poles in previous deeds. It could be some type of court error because 3/54th of 86 acres is about 4 acres. This would add up to 90 acres 13 poles.
- Somehow James L. Ramsey conveyed the property to George D. Cox. Don't know exactly when, but there is a brief mention of it in the next deed. I have a copy of the deed but no date on it. It was sold for \$3,000.00

- Dec. 11, 1888 - George and Ella Cox sell to Ella B. Marks for \$4,000.00 (90 ac., 13 poles)
- April 12, 1889 - Ella and S.B. Marks sell to John Phelps for \$4,000.00 (90 ac., 13 poles)
- April 12, 1889 - John Phelps sells to S.B. Marks for \$4,000.00 (90 ac., 13 poles)
- Jan. 14, 1893 - S.B. Marks and May B. Marks sell to George L. Swanson for \$5,500.00 (90 ac., 13 poles)
- June 19, 1920 - George L. Swanson sells to J.H. Phillips and Fannie Phillips (90 ac., 13 poles)
- Dec. 19, 1926 - J.H. Phillips dies
- 1930 - Property foreclosed and sold to Matewan National Bank for \$5,333.00
- April 21, 1937 - Curtis and Annie Phillips and Ferne and Frank Hoyle (children and heirs et. law of J.H. Phillips sold to Bessie G. Wolfe (now listed as 89.69 ac.). I'm not sure how the Phillips and Hoyles ended up with the property if a bank bought it at auction in the previous transaction.
- Oct. 27, 1944 - Bessie and Robert Wolfe sell to John and Thelma Roth
- April 18, 1950 - John and Thelma Roth sell to Helen Fisher
- 1995 Fisher's sold it to the city of Loveland 2.8 million.

Who were the family relations to the Dupont family? Was it the Wolfe or the Roth? Who put the pillars on the house?

When was the house built?

When the city bought the property, they had a study completed by Vermosey? Don't know the spelling? He published the report, the city and Loveland Historical Society got a copy. His conclusion was the house was built in the 1840's and the house is sitting on a partial old foundation from a previous building.

Former Loveland Mayor Donna Lajcak did not like that answer so she made up a more romantic story saying that Captain John Ramsey and wife built White Pillars.

Here are my ideas that the house was built later than in the 1830's.

The property was sold from Captain Ramsey and Isabella in 1827 to their son John Ramsey Jr., also there was a court case against Captain John Ramsey that went to trial (April 1837, page 265) describing living conditions, a sick wife and Captain John Ramsey's amputated leg. There is no way they had the means to have the house built. Isabella Paxton Ramsey died on 7/24/1837.

The bricks were hand made on the property. We tried to tell Donna Lajak our opinion and she would not hear of it. She is the one that had the Bicentennial Plaque ordered and placed on the house and she knew that Lt. Col. Paxton lived farther West and not on White Pillars.